

## Message Text

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17

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 INT-08 TRSE-00 STR-08 AGR-20

RSC-01 DRC-01 /061 W

----- 129540

R 260930Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3365

UNCLAS TOKYO 9811

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE TINPLATE, EXPORTS TO U.S.

REF: STATE 160744

1. ACCORDING BUREAU OF CUSTOMS STATISTICS JUNE 1974 JAPANESE TINPLATE EXPORTS TO U.S. (EXCLUDING PUERTO RICO) 12,069 MT. JAN.-JUNE 1974 TOTAL (EXCLUDING PUERTO RICO) 95,469 MT, DOWN 15.7 PERCENT FROM JAN.-JUNE 1973. (JAN.-MAY 1974 EXPORTS TO P.R. 4,247 MT. JUNE FIGURES UNAVAILABLE.)

2. JAPAN HAS 4 TINPLATE MFRS.---NIPPON STEEL, NIPPON KOKAN, KAWASAKI STEEL, AND TOYO KOHAN (TOTAL 14 PRODUCTION LINES) WITH ANNUAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY 2 MILLION MT. NO ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL 1974. IMPROVEMENTS TO PRESENT FACILITIES EXPECTED TO ADD SMALL AMOUNT ADDITIONAL CAPACITY 1975.

3. NIPPON STEEL PREDICTS TOTAL 1974 JAPANESE TINPLATE EXPORTS TO U.S. (INCLUDING P.R.) OF 210-220,000 MT. (TOTAL 1973 EXPORTS WERE 244,000 MT, INCLUDING 13,000 MT TO P.R.)

4. MITSUI AND CO., LTD., WHICH HANDLES 45 PERCENT JAPANESE TINPLATE EXPORTS TO U.S., EXPECTS TOTAL 1974 EXPORTS TO U.S. TO REACH 1973 LEVEL. REASONS: (1) U.S. TINPLATE PRICE INCREASE; (2) DECLINE IN DOMESTIC DEMAND RESULTING FROM DOMESTIC TINPLATE PRICE INCREASE AND CONTINUING GOJ ANTI-INFLATIONARY CREDIT POLICIES; (3) DESIRE JAPANESE EXPORTERS TO MEET DEMANDS LONG-  
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STANDING U.S. CUSTOMERS BEFORE SUPPLYING NEWER MARKETS.

HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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